

Library



BOROUGH OF STOURBRIDGE
WORCESTERSHIRE

REPORT
ON THE WORK OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR
1958



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL HOUSE,
STOURBRIDGE.

B O R O U G H O F S T O U R B R I D G E

R E P O R T

O N T H E W O R K O F T H E

P U B L I C H E A L T H D E P A R T M E N T

F O R T H E Y E A R

1958

B O R O U G H O F S T O U R B R I D G E

Mayor

Councillor E.J. Broughton, J.P., C.C.

Deputy Mayor

Councillor J.H. Wooldridge, C.C.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairmen

Councillor H. White (to September, 1958)

Councillor J.H. Wooldridge, C.C. (October to December, 1958)

Alderman J. Griffiths.

Councillor Mrs. N. Davies.

Alderman H.P. Jones, O.B.E., J.P., C.C.

Councillor J.L. Guest.

Alderman B. Skelding, J.P.

Councillor H. Hardwick, C.C.

Alderman E.W.L. Tye.

Councillor C.J. Hill.

Councillor C.J. Aston.

Councillor A. Shields.

...

Medical Officer of Health

R.L. Corlett, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health (Occasional)

J.D. Terrell, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector, also Inspector under Petroleum and Shops Acts

★ A.E.K. Kent, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

★ J.W. Billingham, M.A.P.H.I., Cert.S.I.B.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

★ G.H. Stone, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. S.I.B.

★ R.L. Cooke, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. S.I.B. (as from 6.1.1958)

Pupil Public Health Inspector

R.R. Forrest.

...

Clerical Staff

A. Powell (Chief Clerk)

Miss A.J. Tonks.

M.A. Cobourne (Resigned 31.1.1958)

...

Rodent Operative

G.H. Corbett.

...

★ Certificated Meat and Food Inspectors.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for
1958

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of The Borough of Stourbridge.

Mr. Mayor, Cr. Mrs. Davies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1958.

In general, the health of the Borough was again satisfactorily maintained.

A predominant feature of the mortality figures was the higher incidence of heart disease, to which 137 deaths were attributable - an increase of 22. Cardiac disease is taking increasing toll of life, and its causation and prevention is a problem which merits the closest study. Emotional strain and the increasing tempo of modern life are two factors which are not unrelated to its cause. The longer life of old people, and the inevitable cardiac degeneration associated with old age, has some bearing also on this higher mortality.

Cancer mortality again figures prominently in the statistics, with 86 deaths compared with 65. Of this total, lung cancer accounted for 21 deaths (20 males and 1 female) - an increase of four on the previous year.

Deaths from pneumonia rose from 13 to 19, and from bronchitis 25 to 35. The abnormal amount of fog which persisted in the last quarter of the year no doubt had its harmful effects on respiratory infections.

There was no untoward feature in the incidence of notifiable disease. Scarlet fever cases numbered 57 as against 37, but measles declined from 778 cases to 110, as did notifications of whooping cough from 130 to 24.

As last year, one case of poliomyelitis was recorded (in June) which related to a girl of nine years, whose leg muscles were affected.

Due to the sustained propaganda work of the Health Visitors and Dr. Terrell, the level of immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough was well maintained. With the gratifying immunity from diphtheria as a result of immunisation, the protective effect of vaccination against whooping cough should soon be evident in a lower general incidence of the infection.

The progressive clearance of slum property in the Borough should tend to improve the general well-being of the families re-housed, with advantages to their health and mental outlook. Poor housing is a pre-disposing factor in the cause of much illness, and the betterment of living conditions in such circumstances must be a prime social service.

In conclusion, I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for the help and consideration accorded me, and I also gratefully acknowledge the ready co-operation and assistance rendered by Dr. Terrell, Mr. Kent, Mr. Powell and other members of the staff during the year.

I am,
Mr. Mayor, Cr. Mrs. Davies and Gentlemen,
Your Obadient Servant,
R. L. CORLETT
Medical Officer of Health.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30141473>

SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions

	<u>Acres</u>
The Area of the Borough is	4,214
viz: Stourbridge	1,920
Lye and Wollescote	1,025
Pedmore	1,269
Number of Inhabited houses at end of 1958	13,150
Number of families or separate occupiers, Census 1951	11,635
Rateable Value	£439,512
Sum represented by a penny rate (estimated) 1958/9	£1,700

Statistical Memorandum

Population, estimated mid-year 1958	39,660
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	14.42
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 " " "	10.76
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 " " "	11.72
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births	12.2

The Town is partly residential and partly industrial, and the chief industries are hollow-ware and iron-founding, engineering, manufacture of forgings, spades and shovels, chains, fireclay and electrical products, wire goods, skin rugs and gloves, and scholastic equipment.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year

BIRTHS

			<u>Live Births</u>		
			M.	F.	Total
Legitimate			298	265	563
Illegitimate			5	4	9
			—	—	—
		Totals	<u>303</u>	<u>269</u>	<u>572</u>
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population					14.42
Birth Rate for England and Wales					16.4

Still Births

			M.	F.	Total
Legitimate			6	5	11
Illegitimate			—	1	1
			—	—	—
		Totals	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>12</u>

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births ... 20.5

DEATHS

Males ... 239
Females ... 188

Total 427

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population 10.76
Adjusted Death Rate " " " " 11.72
Death Rate for England and Wales ... 11.7

Maternal Deaths

Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion 1

The Maternal Mortality Rates (per 1,000 total live and still Births)
for England and Wales were:-

Maternal causes, excluding abortion ..	0.35
Due to abortion ..	0.08
Total Maternal Mortality	0.43

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate ..	6	1	7
Illegitimate ..	-	-	-
Totals	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>7</u>

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of Age

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate ..	4	1	5
Illegitimate ..	-	-	-
Totals	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>

Death Rates of Infants under one year of age:-

All Infants per 1,000 live Births .. 12.2

The Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales
was 22.5 per 1,000 Live Births.

Causes of Death

			M.	F.
1.	Respiratory Tuberculosis	.. ..	1	-
2.	Other Forms of Tuberculosis	.. ..	-	1
3.	Syphilitic Diseases	.. ..	1	-
4.	Diphtheria	.. ..	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	.. ..	1	-
6.	Meningococcal Infections	.. ..	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	.. ..	-	-
8.	Measles	.. ..	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	.. ..	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	.. ..	7	5
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	.. ..	20	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	.. ..	-	4
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	.. ..	-	3
14.	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	.. ..	24	22
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	.. ..	3	-
16.	Diabetes	.. ..	2	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	.. ..	26	34
18.	Coronary disease, angina	.. ..	44	19
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	.. ..	7	8
20.	Other heart disease	.. ..	26	33
21.	Other circulatory disease	.. ..	4	5
22.	Influenza	.. ..	2	1
23.	Pneumonia	.. ..	11	8
24.	Bronchitis	.. ..	26	9
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	.. ..	4	3
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	.. ..	2	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	.. ..	2	2
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	.. ..	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	.. ..	3	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	.. ..	-	1
31.	Congenital malformations	.. ..	2	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	.. ..	9	11
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	.. ..	3	2
34.	All other accidents	.. ..	8	8
35.	Suicide	.. ..	1	4
36.	Homicide and operations of war	.. ..	-	-
			<u>239</u>	<u>188</u>

Totals .. 86

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .. 86

SECTION B
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Public Health Officers

Particulars of the Public Health Officers, together with information as to their qualifications, are set out on page 2.

Laboratory Facilities

Examination of clinical material (sputum, swabs &c.) is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Royal Infirmary, Worcester. This applies also to consumer samples of milk, water and ice-cream. Producer samples of milk and water are examined bacteriologically by the County Laboratory, Worcester, in addition to all chemical samples of food, drugs and water.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

There are five Infant Welfare Centres in the Borough as follows:-
40, New Road, Stourbridge; St. Michael's Church Hall, Glebe Lane, Norton;
Community Centre, Wassell Road, Wollescote; and Orchard Lane, Lye.

Prevention of Diphtheria and Whooping Cough

Diphtheria/Whooping Cough sessions were held monthly during the year at the Infant Welfare Centres, as under:-

Stourbridge	..	Third Friday in the month (10 a.m.- 12 noon)
Lye	..	Third Thursday in the month (2 p.m.- 4 p.m.)
Wollescote	..	First Thursday in the month (2 p.m.- 4 p.m.)

Welfare Foods

The Department undertakes, on behalf of the County Council, the distribution of Welfare Foods, and during the year the total issues were:-

<u>Dried Milk</u>	<u>Cod Liver Oil</u>	<u>A & D Tablets</u>	<u>Orange Juice</u>
<u>Tins</u>	<u>Bottles</u>	<u>Packets</u>	<u>Bottles</u>
15,702	3,711	3,248	28,864

SECTION C
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA
Water Supplies

The water supply to the area of Stourbridge is controlled by the Stourbridge and District Water Board. The Board was constituted by Act of Parliament in 1909, and is now composed of 14 members nominated by the Borough of Stourbridge, the Urban Districts of Amblecote and Brierley Hill, and the Rural District of Bromsgrove. It may be of interest to note that on the 1st April, 1957 a piped water supply had been in operation for 100 years in the Stourbridge District. Previously to the Act of 1909, the functions of the Water Undertaking were administered by the Stourbridge Waterworks Company which was incorporated by an Act of Parliament in 1854.

There are three pumping stations, two of which are situated in the Urban District of Amblecote, and the third in Brierley Hill. At each of the pumping stations there are two boreholes. These are tube-protected for part of their full depth and generally penetrate into the upper Bunter Sandstone. The whole of the supply is pumped into two well-defined areas of supply, the high level and the low level.

The high level area which includes the recent housing development of the Redmore Fields Estate has a consumption of more than half-a-million gallons per day, and is supplied normally from the Coalbournbrook Station. Standby plant is available at the Mill Meadow Station. Both of these stations are situated in Amblecote and pump water to a balance tank covering the area sited at Wychbury Hill in the Rural District of Bromsgrove.

It is in the low level area of supply that the major part of the Borough of Stourbridge is situated, and the consumption of this area is more than two million gallons per day. The whole of this supply is provided from the Tack Lane Pumping Station in Wordsley, Brierley Hill, and the station is equipped with duplicate pumping plant capable of meeting the normal demand of the low level area. Further standby capable of augmenting this plant is sited at the Coalbournbrook and Mill Meadow Stations.

Drainage and Sewerage

The main sewers in the Stourbridge area are under the control of Stourbridge Main Drainage Board. The sewers in Lye and Wollescote area are under the control of the Upper Stour Valley Main Sewerage Board.

The sewage is conveyed to the Whittington sewage farms belonging to these Boards and is treated on the Broad Irrigation principle.

SECTION D

Housing work is referred to in the Report of the Public Health Inspector.

SECTION E

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Details of the inspections carried out during the year will be found in the Public Health Inspector's Report.

SECTION F

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and Other Diseases

Poliomyelitis

As in the previous year, one case was notified. This occurred in June and related to a girl of 9 years whose leg muscles were affected.

Scarlet Fever

There were 57 notified cases - an increase of 20 compared with the previous year. They were mostly in the 5 - 9 age group, but the incidence was again of a mild type and no death occurred. For domestic reasons or because of complications 17 cases were admitted to hospital.

Measles

Notifications numbered 110 as against 778 in 1957. More than half the cases were of ages 5 - 9 years and hospital treatment was arranged in five instances owing to the severity of the illness. There was no death.

Whooping Cough

Incidence showed a welcome decline from 130 notifications to 24. The one case in which death resulted was a child of 18 months, who was admitted to hospital but unfortunately failed to survive.

Dysentery

A small outbreak (21 cases) of Shigella Sonnei Dysentery in a residential nursery contributed to an increase in notifications from 3 cases to 30.

A helpful factor in combating the spread of infection was the use of a 1 in 30 solution of benzalkonium chloride in which all attendants and children soaked their hands. The nursing of infected children in single cubicles is also an important factor in obtaining satisfactory bacteriological cure, as by this means articles infected by one child can be prevented from being passed to another.

There were eleven hospital admissions, and all the patients responded well to treatment.

Food Poisoning

Six cases - an increase of two - were notified and all were in the Salmonella group.

S. Heidelberg was isolated in three cases in one household and S. Typhimurium was the causative organism in the others.

In none of the cases, however, could evidence be obtained incriminating any particular food.

Diphtheria Immunisation

Primary and secondary treatments were again well maintained, the year's record being as follows:-

	<u>Age at date of final injection</u>			<u>Total</u>
	<u>Under one year</u>	<u>1 - 4 years</u>	<u>5 - 14 years</u>	
No. of Primary Treatments	489	138	18	645 (571)
No. of Secondary (Re-inforcing) Injections	-	114	212	326 (394)

(The figures in parentheses denote 1957 totals)

Of an estimated child population of 8,500, a total of 7,658 under 15 years of age (of which number 2,048 related to children of pre-school age) had been immunised by the end of the year.

It is estimated that approximately 95% of school children and 70% of those of pre-school age have been completely immunised. It is worthy of note that only two cases of Diphtheria have occurred in the Borough over the last 9 years - a child in 1950 and an adult in 1954.

Whooping Cough Immunisation

The record of immunisation against Whooping Cough (injections given either singly or in combination) was as under for the year under review:-

	<u>Age at date of final injection</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>0 - 4 years</u>	<u>5 - 14 years</u>	
No. of Primary Treatments	544	3	547

Vaccination against Smallpox

The record of Vaccination in the Borough during 1958 was as under:

	<u>Ages</u>	<u>Under 1</u>	<u>1 year</u>	<u>2 - 4</u>	<u>5 - 14</u>	<u>15 & over</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Number</u> <u>Vaccinated</u>		479	15	12	7	10	523
<u>Number</u> <u>Re-vaccinated</u>		-	-	1	2	15	18

The total comparative figures for 1957 were

Number vaccinated 499.
Number re-vaccinated 13.

'CORRECTED' NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) FOR THE YEAR, 1958

DISEASE	A G E S										Total No. of Cases	Cases admitted to Hospital	DEATHS
	Under 1 year	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 64	65 and upwards			
Scarlet Fever	-	4	8	39	4	1	1	-	-	-	57	17	-
Meningococcal Infection	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
Encephalitis (Post-infectious)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	9	5	1	-	-	15	-	-
Pneumonia	4	6	2	2	2	3	1	-	3	-	23	20	19
Whooping Cough	-	7	6	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	1	1
Measles	-	20	27	59	4	-	-	-	-	-	110	5	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Dysentery	-	10	6	4	2	4	1	3	-	-	30	11	-
Food Poisoning	-	2	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	6	2	-
TOTALS	7	49	49	116	12	19	11	5	3	-	271	60	20

NOTE: 58 of the 60 hospital cases were admitted to Hayley Green Isolation Hospital, Halesowen.
Of the 19 Pneumonia deaths 2 occurred in this Hospital.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1958

Age Periods			New Cases				Deaths			
			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	...	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	...	...	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	...	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	...	...	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	...	...	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	...	...	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	...	...	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45	...	...	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55	...	...	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards			-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
TOTALS			11	7	-	2	1	-	-	1

The Death Rate for Respiratory and Non-respiratory Tuberculosis in each case was 0.02 per 1,000 population.

Summary of Cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the end of 1958

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
No. of cases on Register, 1st January, 1958	120	79	8	6
No. of cases notified for the first time during the year under the Regulations ...	11	7	-	2
No. of cases first heard of otherwise than by primary notification ...	2	1	-	-
No. of cases removed from Register in a previous Quarter which have been restored to Register during the Quarter ...	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	133	87	8	8
No. of cases removed from Register during the year	33	18	-	3
No. of cases remaining on Register at the end of the year	100	69	8	5

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
for

1958

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of The Borough of Stourbridge.
Mr. Mayor, Cr. Mrs. Davies
and Gentlemen,

In the following pages will be found particulars
of the work carried out by your Department in the course of the
year.

Mr. Cooke, Public Health Inspector, who filled a
vacancy in the establishment, commenced his duties early in the
year.

I would like to express my appreciation of the
helpful co-operation and support received from the Chairman and
Members of the Public Health Committee and from Dr. Corlett and
Mr. Drury, the Town Clerk. To the members of the staff and other
Council officers I would also like to convey my thanks for their
unfailing assistance throughout the year.

I am,
Mr. Mayor, Cr. Mrs. Davies and
Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,

A.E.K. KENT

Chief Public Health Inspector.

COMPLAINTS

299 complaints, relating principally to housing defects, were received during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following data is given in accordance with Article 27(18) of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1953:-

The number and nature of Inspections made during the year:

Inspections of houses	371
Re-inspections under Housing Regulations	992
Inspections under Housing Regulations	43
Re-inspections under Housing Regulations	22
Inspections Town & Country Planning Act - Re-development	157
Visits re notifiable diseases	74
Meat Inspection:	
Cattle	2113
Pigs	6622
Sheep	11327
Dairies	85
Factories	17
Smoke &c. nuisances	46
Bakchouses	60
Food Stores & Food Preparation Premises	118
Shops Act	41
Shops (re Unfit Food)	70
Vermin Infestation (excluding Rats & Mice)	28
Rats & Mice	241
Water Supplies	43
Drainage	189
Tuberculosis After-Care	58
Waste Water Closets	32
Tents, Vans, Sheds &c.	25
Refuse Tips	112
Pet Animals Act	6
Rag Flock Act	5
Licensed Premises	18
Miscellaneous	123

Number of Notices served during the year:

Preliminary Notices	73
Statutory Notices	124

PRELIMINARY NOTICES

Preliminary Intimation Notices sent during the year numbered 73. These, in general, took the form of letters giving particulars of defects and suggestions as to repairs necessary to remedy the defects.

	<u>No. of Notices</u>	<u>No. of Houses or Premises affected</u>
General defects of houses	32	36
Defective water closets	7	9
Defective drainage & obstruction	15	27
Factories - smoke nuisance	1	1
Factories Act - sanitary accomm- odation	3	3
Food Hygiene Regs.: contraventions	5	5
Miscellaneous	10	13
Totals	<u>73</u>	<u>94</u>

STATUTORY NOTICES, 1958

Public Health Act, 1936

	<u>No. of Notices</u>	<u>No. of Premises Affected</u>
Abatement of Nuisances (S.93) ..	23	20
Requisition for Information (S. 277)	3	4
Defective Closets (S.45) ..	2	2
Defective Closets - Reconstruction of (S.44)	3	2
Drainage (S.39) ..	13	10
Cleansing of Premises (S.83) ..	1	1

Housing Acts, 1957

Notices to Appear before Council (S.16)	19	28
Demolition Orders (S.17) ..	21	21
Requisition for Information (S.170)	20	58
Closing Orders (S.17) ..	10	6
Clearance Orders (S.44) ..	6	39

Clean Air Act, 1956

Certificates of Exemption (S.3) ..	2	2
------------------------------------	---	---

Food and Drugs Acts, 1938-1955

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

Prohibiting Sale of Milk (Article 20)	1	1
Totals	<u>124</u>	<u>194</u>

Two prosecutions were instituted under the Public Health Act, 1936, for non-compliance with Statutory Notices. In the one case, under Section 93, the defendant was ordered to do the work required within one month, and to pay Court costs. In the other, under Section 83, the defendant was fined £5.

RENT ACT, 1957

The following particulars are given for the year relating to the operation of the Rent Act, 1957.

Part 1 - Applications for Certificates of Disrepair

(1)	No. of applications for certificates ..	50
(2)	No. of decisions not to issue certificates	NIL
(3)	No. of decisions to issue certificates (including part of 1957)	55
	(a) in respect of some but not all defects	27
	(b) in respect of all defects ..	28
(4)	No. of undertakings given by landlord under paragraph 5 of First Schedule ..	31
(5)	No. of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of First Schedule	NIL
(6)	No. of certificates issued ..	26

Part 11 - Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

(7)	Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	13
(8)	Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	1
(9)	Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objection ..	NIL
(10)	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	8

Housing Act, 1949 - Improvement Grants

23 applications for Improvement grants were received, 22 of which were approved and 1 rejected. One of the approved grants however was not taken up.

DEMOLITION ORDERS

Twenty one Demolition Orders were made during the year in respect of the following houses, all of which were in a state of disrepair bordering on the dangerous:-

No. 49, Belmont Road, Wollescote
No. 51, Birmingham Street, Stourbridge
No. 57, Birmingham Street, Stourbridge
No. 14, Duke Street, Stourbridge
Nos. 4, 6, 8 & 10, Lion Street, Stourbridge
Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11 & 13, Hemplands Road, Stourbridge
Nos. 6, 8 & 10, The Cliff, Stourbridge
Nos. 1, 3 & 5, Mount Street, Stourbridge.

CLOSING ORDERS

Under the provisions of the Housing Act Closing Orders were made on the following properties:-

No. 4, Enville Street, Stourbridge
Nos. 4 & 6, New Road, Stourbridge
No. 3, Union Street, Stourbridge
No. 13, Bagley Street, Stambermill
No. 2, Talbot Street, Lye.

CLEARANCE AREAS

During the year two Clearance Areas were declared in respect of the following properties:-

- (1) Nos. 13 & 15, South Road, Stourbridge, together with paintshop, garage & ladder store, wooden garage, garage & workshop.
- (2) Nos. 4 to 43 (inclusive), Summer Street, Stourbridge.

The Minister of Housing and Local Government confirmed the Clearance Order in respect of the houses Nos. 13 and 15, South Road, Stourbridge, but excluding the outbuildings, and the Clearance Order for Nos. 4 to 43, Summer Street, Stourbridge, was confirmed by the Minister without modification.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

One hundred and eighty five complaints of rats and mice infestation were received, compared with 191 in 1957.

A summary of the work carried out by the Rodent Operative during the year is set out below.

<u>Type of Property</u>	<u>No. of Premises Infested</u>	<u>No. of Treatments</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>	<u>Infested by</u>	
				<u>Rats</u>	<u>Mice</u>
Local Authority	7	16	43	6	1
Dwelling Houses	182	190	457	128	54
Business & Industrial					
Premises &c.	13	14	59	11	2
Agricultural Premises	-	-	2	-	-
	<u>202</u>	<u>220</u>	<u>561</u>	<u>145</u>	<u>57</u>

The sewers were also treated during the year and a total of 115 manholes dealt with.

It is estimated that throughout the Borough approximately 1,900 rats and 950 mice were killed.

Premises used for:

Sale and/or Manufacture of Ice Cream

Ten new premises were registered during the year for the sale of Ice Cream in sealed cartons. At the end of the year there were 165 premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream and 4 for its manufacture and sale.

Thirty three samples were submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination. The fat content varied between 5.6% and 16.0%.

Twenty seven of the bacteriological samples submitted were in provisional grade 1.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment &c.) Regulations, 1947-52

There is only one manufacturer of Ice Cream in the Borough affected by ^{these} Regulations. All the registered retailers draw their supplies either from this firm or from other manufacturers outside the District.

All retailers are provided with refrigerator cabinets which maintain a temperature well below 28 degrees F. in accordance with the Regulations.

Preparation of Preserved Foods

There are 26 premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of Preserved Food. All the premises were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Fish Frying

Eighteen premises are registered, all of which were maintained in a satisfactory state of cleanliness.

ADULTERATION

Twelve informal samples were submitted for chemical analysis as follows:

	<u>No. of Samples</u>		<u>No. of Samples</u>
Milk (T.T. Pasteurised)	1	Ice Cream	3
Milk (Pasteurised)	2	Chocolate Ice Lolly	1
Milk (T.T. Channel Islands)	2	Dairy Ice Cream	3

All the samples were genuine.

MILK

Bacteriological Examination

Thirty six samples of milk were submitted during the year for bacteriological examination as under:-

<u>Type of Milk</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	7
Pasteurised	17
Sterilised	1
Tuberculin Tested	6
Channel Island (T.T. Pasteurised)	3
Channel Island (T.T.)	2

The results of the tests applied all proved to be satisfactory.

Biological

A sample of Channel Island T.T. milk taken in November, 1957 was reported upon examination to be infected with Brucella Abortus. A Notice under Article 20 of Milk & Dairies Regs., 1949, was immediately served on the retailer prohibiting sale of this milk in a raw state, and requiring its pasteurisation before sale.

The milk involved was supplied from outside the Borough and the Local Authority concerned was notified of the action.

In January, 1958 a sample of Tuberculin Tested milk was submitted for examination. The Laboratory report stated that milk showed no signs of infection with M.Tuberculosis or Brucella Abortus.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954
he Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 to
1953

The following licences were in operation at the end of 1958:-

Tuberculin Tested Milk

Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the special designation "tuberculin tested" (including three bottling establishments) .. 13

Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the special designation "tuberculin tested" 4

Pasteurised Milk

Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licence authorising the holder to pasteurise milk 3

Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the special designation "pasteurised" 16

Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the special designation "pasteurised" 6

Sterilised Milk

Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the special designation "sterilised" 96

Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the special designation "sterilised" 6

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD INSPECTION

Meat inspection continued to take up a considerable proportion of the Health Inspector's duties and every animal slaughtered was inspected without exception as to its fitness for human consumption.

Beginning in 1954 when 10,606 animals were inspected, the numbers have continued to increase year by year, and in 1958 the total for the year killed and inspected amounted to 20,062 - almost double the 1954 figures.

Tuberculosis infection was once again less prevalent but the number of cases of cysticercus bovis continues to rise which is a matter of much concern to the trade in general.

It is gratifying to record that the five slaughterhouses in the Borough were maintained throughout the year in excellent condition.

Below are the number of animals killed and inspected during the year under review:-

<u>Cattle</u> <u>(excluding Cows)</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
1,892	177	44	11,327	6,622

There were two instances during the year of bottles of milk containing pieces of glass. The complaints were brought to the notice of the suppliers, requesting that prompt steps be taken to prevent a repetition, and pointing out the serious consequences to health that could arise.

A number of samples of ^{and cream} cream/products taken at various times in the course of the year from a manufacturing firm in the Borough were not regarded by the Analyst as satisfactory. At several points in the process of manufacture faecal coli were isolated, but in no case were food poisoning pathogens found. Various suggestions were made to the manufacturers to bring about effective sterilisation - in one case a measuring can was suspected as the probable cause.

The matter was taken up with the firm in very strong terms, and a rigid system of cleansing and sterilisation insisted upon, with proper supervision and control.

A uniform improvement was noticeable towards the end of the year in the later samples submitted for examination and the results of these proved to be satisfactory.

TABLE 1

Appendix
Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

Year 1958

	Cattle Excluding Cows and Calves	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	1,892	177	44	11,327	6,622	Nil
Number inspected	1,892	177	44	11,327	6,622	Nil
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	3	2	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	462	40	1	968	1,573	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	24.4%	22.7%	2.3%	8.6%	23.7%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	56	9	-	-	105	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.9%	5.6%	-	-	1.6%	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	42	3	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	42	3	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

MEAT CONDEMNED

Year, 1958

Table 2

CATTLE AND CALVES

Diseases	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	Intestines	Other Parts
Actinomycosis		5							1	
Actinobacillosis		13	6		1				4	
Tuberculosis	1	32	48	2	22	1	2	8	21	1 set udders 2 cows' flanks 1 forequarter
Pneumonia			15							
Pericarditis			1	8						
Hydatid Cysts			19		9					
Fascioliasis			3		174					
Bacterial Necrosis					6					kidney fat (20 lb.) beef fat (20 lb.)
Cavernous Angioma					14					
Peritonitis					2	1	1	2	1	4 flanks
Pyæmia			10		77			2		
Mastitis										12 sets udders
Nephritis								1		
Linguatulæ			1		1					
Bruising										87 lb. flank
Cysticercus Bovis		26		19						beef skirting
Oedema										2 flanks (20 lb.)
Fatty Infiltration					2					
TOTALS	1	76	103	29	308	2	3	13	27	

MEAT CONDEMNED
Year, 1958

Table 2

SHEEP

Diseases	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	Intestines	Other Parts
Muelleriasis			645							
Pneumonia &c.			40							
Pericarditis				3						
Hydatid Cysts			22		15					
Fascioliasis					402					
Arthritis										1 leg of lamb
Peritonitis					4					
Abscesses					3					
Sarcocystis Tenella				1						
Pyæmia					1					1 leg of lamb 1 flank
Fatty Infiltration					1					
Cysticercus Tenuicollis										1 omentum
Emaciation	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	
Lympho Leukaemia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	
TOTALS	3	3	710	7	429	3	3	6	3	

Table 2

Diseases	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	Intestines	Other Parts
Tuberculosis		95	6		3	1			22	
Pneumonia			938							
Pericarditis				182						
Congestion			197							
Cirrhosis					388					
Ascarides					36					
Strongylosis			1							
Bruising										2 flanks (20 lb.)
Enteritis									1	
Oedema		1								
Peritonitis					51	15	16	2	34	
Hydronephrosis								7		
Hydatid Cysts					13					
Leukaemia			1	1	1		1			
Pyæmia		2								2 fore-quarters
Swine Erysipelas	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	
Nephritis								1		
Arthritis										1 shoulder 1 leg
Died in Lairage	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	
TOTALS	2	100	1145	185	494	18	19	14	59	

Meat and Other Food Inspection (continued)

70 visits to shops etc. were made in connection with the inspection of foodstuffs, and the following items were condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

Canned Foods

			<u>No. of Tins</u>
Fish	..	..	50
Fruit	..	..	369
Milk	..	..	42
Soup	..	..	20
Vegetables	..	..	201
Crab Paste	..	..	2
Cream	..	..	1
Prawns (7½ lb.)	..	..	1
Rice Pudding	..	..	1
Meat (566 lb.)	..	..	138
Egg, frozen (28 lb.)	..	..	1

Other Foods

Chutney	..	..	1 jar
Jelly	..	..	2 pkts.
Marmalade	..	..	5 jars
Smoked Cod Fillets	..	..	2 stone
Megrims	..	..	3 stone
Cod	..	..	6 stone
Herring Roe	..	..	2 boxes (42 lb.each)
Smoked Cod	..	..	14 lb.
Cod Roe	..	..	4 stone
Dried Cod Fillets	..	..	1 stone
Haddock Fillets	..	..	5 stone
Potatoes	..	..	55 cwt.
One leg Lamb	..	..	5 lb.
Hindquarter of Beef (bone taint)	..	..	184 lb.
Loin of Beef (bone taint)	..	..	48 lb.
Hip and Loin of Beef	..	..	66 lb.
Buttock of Beef (bone taint)	..	..	117 lb.
Fat	..	..	33 lb.
Cheese Spread	..	..	75 pkts.
Cheese	..	..	31 - 4 oz. pkts.
Chicken Puffs	..	..	20
Sliced Chicken	..	..	17 - 4 oz. pkts.
Braised Beef	..	..	8 - 2 ¾ oz. pkts.
Frozen Chicken Pies	..	..	12
Waffles	..	..	11 pkts.
Chicken Vol-Au-Vent	..	..	3 pkts.
Potato Puffles	..	..	6 - 4 oz. pkts.
Cheese	..	..	72 - 2 oz. pkts.
Strawberries	..	..	9 - 9 oz. pkts.
Lemon Mousse	..	..	10 - 4½ oz. pkts.
Strawberry Mousse	..	..	30 - 1½ oz. pkts.

Method of Disposal

Meat: Collected daily by recognised processing firms and used for the manufacture of by-products.

Other Food: Collected, as required, by Council vehicles and disposed of by controlled tipping under supervision.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 to 1954

Under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 to 1954, 28 licences were renewed during the year.

WATER SAMPLING

Public Supplies

The bacteriological reports on the public supplies were generally excellent.

The supplies were satisfactory as to quantity. They are not liable to plumbo solvency but samples are examined periodically for lead contamination.

The approximate number of dwelling houses supplied from the Mains direct to houses in the Borough was 13,140. The number of standpipes is gradually being reduced.

The results of some 122 samples submitted by the Department for bacteriological examination proved to be excellent, with complete absence of coliform bacilli and faecal coli. Four other samples, however, taken from a service pipe and a newly-constructed storage tank at a new School showed high counts, with coli-aerogenes present in one instance. After cleansing and chlorination of the tank, the counts were reduced, and subsequent samples proved to be entirely satisfactory.

Nine chemical samples (three taken direct from bore holes) were also submitted for examination, and the results were satisfactory.

FOOD PREMISES

Inspection of food premises was somewhat restricted during the year by reason of staffing difficulties, but generally speaking a satisfactory standard of hygiene was maintained.

Traders readily respond, where necessary, to suggestions for improving standards, and no action by way of prosecution under the Food Hygiene Regulations was found necessary.

VERMIN INFESTATION

Disinfestation of 28 premises involving cockroaches, fleas, woodlice &c. was carried out, and in nine other instances insecticides were issued and advice given.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

Renewal licences to station and use moveable dwellings for short periods on various sites in the Borough were granted in four cases.

During the year 25 inspections were made of caravans and sites, all of which were kept in good condition, and no formal action was necessary.

OUTWORKERS

Eighteen lists were received, containing the names of 7 outworkers, five of whom resided outside the Borough.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Six renewal licences were granted.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Two licences were renewed.

SWIMMING BATHS

One hundred and eighteen (40 chemical and 78 bacteriological) samples of water from the Corporation Swimming Baths were submitted for examination.

All the samples, both chemical and bacteriological, were satisfactory.

It is worthy of note that the Baths Superintendent and his Staff again maintained a high standard of cleanliness.

RIVERS POLLUTION

There was close liaison between the Department and the Rivers Board, to whom the powers under the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1951, were transferred.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

The apparatus for measuring atmospheric pollution is still in operation and recordings are kept.

One large factory using several coal-fired steel reheating furnaces, and which had been a fairly persistent offender in the emission of black smoke was again the subject of much work and investigation. After considerable pressure, the firm were persuaded to carry out their scheme for the total conversion to oil-fired furnaces as a matter of urgency. These conversions were completed in September, and from the point of view of smoke emission, efficiency and economy, the immediate improvement was excellent.

The question of defining "Smokeless Areas" in the Borough was raised during the latter part of the year and an initial survey commenced with a view to the Council adopting an Area or Areas during 1959.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Public Cleansing is under the control of the Borough Surveyor.

Controlled tipping is still the means of disposal for all refuse in the Borough, and this is carried out under the general supervision of this Department.

PETROLEUM ACTS

86 licences were issued as follows:-

70	to	store	petroleum	spirit	only
8	"	"	"	"	and cellulose
3	"	"	"	"	and carbide of calcium
1	"	"	carbide	of calcium	only
2	"	"	cellulose	only	
2	"	"	mixture	of petroleum	spirit.

These licences authorised the storage of 104,260 gallons of petroleum, 1,524 lbs. carbide of calcium, 1,000 gallons cellulose, and 12 gallons of petroleum mixture.

Licence fees amounted to £61. 0. 0.

TUBERCULOSIS AFTER-CARE COMMITTEE

The members of this Committee comprise representatives from the Borough Council, the County Medical Officer's Department, the W.V.S., the Nursing Association, and your Health Department.

During the year, six families were re-housed and 32 patients granted free milk.

As Hon. Secretary, I wish to record the Committee's appreciation of the financial contributions received from various donors to its Welfare Fund. Patients in dire need of small comforts are thus assisted, and the Committee are able to provide Christmas food parcels which are particularly welcome and gratefully acknowledged.

Year 1958.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	8	3	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	227	20	6	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	235	23	6	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp-ector	By H.M. Insp-ector	
(1)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	4	4	-	4	-
	6	6	-	5	-

